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City and River Street Merchants Band Together For New Festival

For Immediate Release

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(April 15, 2004- TROY)- Mayor Harry Tutunjian, Deputy Mayor Dan Crawley, and a host of River Street Merchants have formed together to create the first ever River Street Festival- set to take place on June 19th in historic downtown Troy.

The festival will have an arts and antiques theme, but will include two stages of entertainment from local and national bands, food vendors, and crafts vendors. The excitement is being planned with cooperation between City government and the River Street Merchants.

The fun gets underway on June 19th at 10 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. The entertainment portion of the event will take place beginning at Noon. The boundaries will run from the northern point of Monument Square on River Street to the intersection of Congress and River Streets. At each end of the festival will be two stages providing the entertainment.

Playing at the festival will be Erin Harkes, Folding Sky, Sean Rowe, The Sharks, Rasinhead, Jackinnany, and national recording artists The Fleshtones. The cost of the entertainment is being covered by the City of Troy, and all of the bands playing have ties to the Collar City.

There will also be a juried arts and crafts during the festival.

While food, crafts, and entertainment will be the order of the day, alcohol consumption will be limited to the inside of Artie's River Street Stage. Tutunjian said Friday that he looked forward to the day when people will come from around the area to experience what Troy has to offer.

"There are a lot of hard working people in the entire downtown, especially the area along River Street," Tutunjian said. "Some have been there through the good times and bad. This festival will offer people from around the area, and around the state, an opportunity to come to Troy and see what our great City is all about."

One of the organizers of the event is Dana Rudolph, who owns Dana Rudolph and Company on River Street. Rudolph was one of the original organizers of Lark Fest.

"What we're trying to do is create a festival that goes back to the grassroots arts and antiques festival, and away from the commercially established festivals you see so much of today," Rudolph said. "This is going to be a family oriented event that will showcase all of the great things we have going on in the downtown area, in particular the special places located up and down River Street."

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Anyone wishing to participate as a vendor should contact Rudolph at 273-4532 or e-mail her at troyevents@yahoo.com. Anyone wishing to act as a sponsor for the event should contact Deputy Mayor Crawley at 270-4644.